

MONITORING SYSTEM AND METHOD USING RULES

ABSTRACT

A method of monitoring a subject, such as a patient, using rules is provided. The method includes receiving data from the subject, and applying the data to a rule-based algorithm. The method also preferably includes generating a response based on the application of the rule-based algorithm. Some examples of responses include generating an alarm, generating a suggested reason for an identification of an abnormal condition, and generating a suggested response to an abnormal condition that has been identified. Preferably, more than one set of variables is applied to a particular rule-based algorithm. A monitor using the method may be configured to have multiple rule-based algorithms selected and applied simultaneously. Each rule-based algorithm can generate a unique response, or a combination can be used to generate a smaller number of responses. Also, a monitor using this method may be configured to allow rule-based algorithms to be exchanged and/or altered.